

ACTION INR-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00	CIAE-00	INL-00	DOTE-00
	PDI-00	DS-00	EAP-00	EB-00	EUR-00	OIGO-00	FAAE-00
	UTED-00	VCi-00	TEDE-00	IO-00	LAB-01	VCIE-00	NEA-00
	DCP-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00	OIC-00	OIG-00	NIMA-00	EPAU-00
	PA-00	PER-00	GIWI-00	ISNE-00	DOHS-00	IRM-00	NCTC-00
	FMP-00	BBG-00	R-00	EPAE-00	ECA-00	IIP-00	SCRS-00
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 SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
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 THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
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 HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA// IMMEDIATE
 HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CCPA// IMMEDIATE
 JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 AMCONSUL KARACHI
 AMCONSUL LAHORE
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 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
 AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
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STATE FOR INR/R/MR, IIP/T, IIP/G/NEA-SA, SA
 SA/PAB, SA/INS, SA/RA, SA/PPD, DRL
 LONDON FOR POL/GOODRICH; PARIS FOR POL/HANSON
 CENTCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS-MAJ.BALDWIN/SGT. BAKER
 USCINCPAC FOR POLAD AMBASSADOR HOLZMAN
 SECDEF FOR PA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK
 SUBJECT: MEDIA SUMMARY: JULY 22-24, 2006

Summary: The Middle East crisis continues to figure prominently in

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Pakistani media. Urdu daily "Ausaf" has attributed Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri as telling U.S. "to give up apathy" and stop Israeli aggression (para 12). Opposition leader Maulana Fazlur Rehman has called upon Muslim armies "to strike back at Israel" (para 13), while the leader of right wing religio-political party Jamat-e-Islami Qazi Hussain Ahmad has asked Muslim states "to quit UN." (para 14). Newspapers over the weekend also report that Bush administration is rushing delivery of bombs to Israel (para 17) in the backdrop of joint Pakistan and Saudi Arabia call for an immediate end to Israeli aggression (para 10).

With reports regarding an anticipated Congressional approval of sales of F-16 planes to Pakistan by U.S. are reverberating in the media, Pakistanis are keeping their fingers crossed about the actual outcome. "U.S. official defends F-16s deal" reports daily "Dawn" (para 2), while the same papers reports the tabling of a resolution by the "Congressional Caucus on India" against the deal (para 3).

Reports regarding U.S. denial of access to officials to Pak prisoners lodged at Bagram base was also prominently reported by media on Monday (para 5) as was the news over the weekend of reported U.S. decline to a visit of Pakistani parliamentarians to the Guantanamo Bay (para 6). End summary.

----- News Stories -----

1. "US To Train Pakistani Security Men" "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (07/23)

"The US Government will train Pakistani security personnel in the protection of VVIPs, "Daily Times" has learned. Sources said that as a first step towards this new training program, Washington is posting a federal prosecution officer to the US Embassy in Islamabad whose primary duty would be to act as a liaison officer for the training program. The US State Department wants better security for Pakistani officials it considers important in the war on terror, the sources said, adding that these VVIPs were President Musharraf and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz, both of whom have been targeted by suicide attacks in the past."

2. "US Official Defends F-16s Deal" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/22)

"Pakistan is likely to get congressional approval for the proposed \$5.1 billion arms package, including F-16s aircraft, despite the battering it received at a panel hearing on the deal."

3. "US Congress To Okay F-16s Deal Soon: Boucher" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/23)

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"The proposed \$5.1 billion US arms package for Pakistan, which also includes 36 F-16 aircrafts, will get congressional approval soon. US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia Richard Boucher told reporters."

4. "Resolution Introduced Against F-16s Sale" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/23)

"Co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on India has introduced a joint resolution in the House of Representatives disapproving the proposed sale of F-16 fighter jets and other weapons to Pakistan in a \$5.1 billion arms deal."

5. "US Denies Access To Pak Prisoners At Bagram Base" "The Post" (cir. 5,000) (07/24)

"After turning down the Pak MPs' request for a visit to Guantanamo Bay, the US has now denied officials' access to seven Pakistani prisoners detained at Bagram airbase, saying that it required approval from the US defence secretary, Rumsfeld. As a Pakistani delegation that recently visited Bagram airbase to ascertain the exact number of the country's citizens put behind bars there, the US military officials refused to give them access, The Post has reliably learnt. Although the US ambassador to Pakistan, Ryan C. Crocker, already approved the delegation's visit to Bagram airbase for meeting Pakistani prisoners, the US military police posted there, refused their meeting."

6. "US Bars Pak MPs From Visiting Gitmo" "The Post" (cir. 5,000) (07/22)

"The US has turned down Pakistan's request to allow its parliamentarians to visit Guantanamo Bay to collect information about Pakistanis detained for their alleged involvement in terrorism and consequently seek their release from the US, officials said."

7. "Pakistan Asks US For More Choppers" "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (07/24)

"Pakistan has asked the United States to supply more modern helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft to boost anti-terror and anti-narcotics operation along its border with Afghanistan and Iran."

8. "US To Increase Training Opportunities For Pak Scientists" "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/23)

"The United States has agreed to enhance training and research opportunities for Pakistani scientists in various US educational

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institutions and linkages between the centers of excellence and faculty exchanges."

9. "Pakistani Gets 30-Year Jail In US" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/22)

"A Pakistani convicted of helping Al Qaeda was sentenced here on Thursday to 30 years in prison. Uzair Paracha, 26, was convicted by the federal district court in Manhattan in November of trying to help a Pakistani member of Al Qaeda, Majid Khan, obtain documents in 2003 to travel to the US from Pakistan."

10. "Musharraf, Abdullah For OIC Initiative" "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (07/24)

"Pakistan and Saudi Arabia on Sunday demanded an immediate end to the Israeli aggression against Lebanon while expressing profound concern over the killing of innocent people in Beirut and other Lebanese cities."

11. "Israel Will Not Be Recognized" "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (07/23)

"Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz Saturday said Pakistan would not recognize Israel claiming Islamabad's policy in this regard was very clear. "Our stand is very clear on the issue that we will not recognize Israel unless Palestine issue is resolved," Aziz said in an exclusive interview with "The Nation" and "Nawa-e-Waqt" Panel at his official residence."

12. "U.S. Should Give Up Apathy; Stop Israeli Aggression Or Else A Massive Catastrophe Is Destined: Foreign Minister Kasuri" "Ausaf" (cir. 10,000) (07/24)

"Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri has said that the U.S. should give up indolence and do something to stop Israeli aggression. 'Only the U.S. can prevent Israel from attacking Lebanon, but it is behaving indifferently.' In an interview with this newspaper, Khurshid Kasuri said that if the international community did not play its role to stop this war, it would be dangerous for the global peace."

13. "Fazl Asks Muslim Armies To Strike Back At Israel" "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/22)

"The religious parties of the country broke their silence over attack on Lebanon on Friday when Leader of the Opposition in National Assembly Maulana Fazlur Rehman asked the Muslim armies for a cohesive retaliation to the Israeli invasion. "Army of the Muslim countries should jointly come into the field to respond to the Israeli attack on innocent citizens of Lebanon," said the Secretary

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General of the Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal (MMA) and Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly, Maulana Fazlur Rehman."

14. "Qazi Asks Muslim States To Quit UN" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/24)

"Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal (MMA) president and Jamaat-e-Islami Amir Qazi Hussain Ahmad on Sunday asked Muslim countries to quit the United Nations if it failed to stop Israeli aggression."

15. "America Wants The Elimination Of Islamic Movements Everywhere: Prof. Sajid Mir" "Express," (cir. 25,000) (07/24)

"Leader of Markazi Jamiat Ahle Hadith professor Sajid Mir has said that by providing Israel with laser-guided missiles, America is openly supporting it. He added that the U.S. wants the elimination of Islamic movement everywhere in the world.... Addressing a gathering of students at the [party] secretariat, he said that the [Pakistani] rulers want to uproot seminaries at U.S. instance."

16. "Taliban Urge Muslims To Resist US, Israel" "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/24)

"The Taliban on Sunday urged Muslims to support the Jihad against the Crusaders and Zionists by standing by the side of Mujahideen resisting the invading and occupying forces in Lebanon, Palestine and elsewhere in the world."

17. "US Rushes Delivery Of Bombs To Israel" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/23)

"The Bush administration is rushing a delivery of precision-guided bombs to Israel which requested the expedited shipment last week after beginning its air campaign against Hezbollah targets in Lebanon, the New York Times reported on Saturday quoting American officials."

18. "Torture Against Detainees In Iraq Authorized: HRW" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/24)

"Torture and other abuses against detainees in US custody in Iraq were authorized and routine, even after the 2004 Abu Gharib scandal, according to new accounts from soldiers, a new Human Rights Watch report said on Sunday."

19. "Pakistan Deports 58 Illegal Afghan Immigrants" "The News" (cir. 55,000) (07/24)

"Pakistan On Sunday deported 58 Afghans following a crackdown on illegal immigrants living in the Balochistan Province, a border

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official said."

20. "Kabul Releases Army Official" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/24)

"The Afghanistan government has released a serving official of the Pakistan Army as a goodwill gesture, and 27 civilians will be released next week. A source in the interior ministry on Sunday said that Lieutenant Shahid was handed over to a three-member Pakistani team that returned on Thursday after completing a three-day visit to Afghanistan."

21. "Militants Free Four paramilitary Men" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/22)

"Authorities in the North Waziristan tribal region are considering to offer more concessions as militants on Friday freed four paramilitary troops, reciprocating the release of their men by the government on Thursday."

22. "Talks With India To Resume Soon, Hopes Kasuri" "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/24)

"Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri has expressed hope that India-Pakistan composite dialogue will soon be back on track and stressed that it is in the interest of both the countries as well as the region to carry forward the peace process."

23. "Over 550 Religious Activists Arrested In Punjab" "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (07/24)

"Police have arrested more than 550 Muslim prayer leaders and members of banned religious groups in Punjab for spreading sectarian hatred and extremism, officials said on Sunday."

Editorials/Opinions

24. "Middle East Flashpoint," an op-ed by Tanvir Ahmad Khan in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/24)

"... If there is anger against Israel and the United States, there are also misgivings about Iran. The Arab world is in disarray and is unable to formulate a joint strategy. There is no guarantee that the conflict will remain limited to Lebanon in the days ahead; a wider conflagration will have serious consequences for the region and the world beyond. For the first time, price tags of well over \$100 for a barrel of oil are being mentioned."

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25. "World Peace At Stake," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English daily, "The Post" (cir. 5,000) (07/24)

"... This war can turn into a nightmare for world peace. If Israel continues with its aggression, the conflict is likely to widen. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan has urged that the hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon must stop immediately. But for the UN's voice to be heard, it is important that in the absence of the US on board, other important countries like Russia and China should step in and try to halt the fighting."

26. "Motivation Behind Jihad," an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English daily, "The Post" (cir. 5,000) (07/24)

"... This grave situation in which a large number of youngsters are fleeing their homes to join these Jihadi courses, is highly alarming. The reasons for this phenomenon include the lack of

economic opportunities, unemployment, and a lack of future prospects for these youth, all of which combine to act as a 'push' factor to join the Jihadi groups for lack of a better alternative. On the other hand, the mounting tensions worldwide due to the US actions in Afghanistan and Iraq, and now Israel in Lebanon and against the Palestinians, adds to their indignation and anger."

27. "With Washington's Connivance," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/23)

"... Washington is rushing the supply of laser-guided bombs and missiles to Israel. Is there a government more apathetic to bloodshed than that of Israel? It has caused all this suffering to the Lebanese people simply because it wants two Israeli prisoners of war to be freed. Could it not secure their release by means of a prisoner swap with Hezbollah? Sheikh Nasrallah has indicated that he is ready for such a deal. Why cannot Israel and America end the Lebanese people's distress and agree to a prisoner exchange - unless they believe that the PoW issue has come in handy for them to have a go at Hezbollah and Lebanon?"

28. "Conspiracy Of Silence," an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily, "Dawn" (cir. 65,000) (07/22)

"... The relentless bombing of Lebanon is further proof that the Muslim world is no match for Israel militarily. As a result, "Arab and Muslim rage" will be vented through clandestine channels and the terrorists' primary target will continue to be America."

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29. "U.S. Hidden Agenda Behind Israeli Aggression" an editorial in Islamabad-based Urdu daily, "Ausaf" (cir. 10,000) (07/24)

"... There is no one in this unipolar world to stop the U.S., so it wants to destroy all those elements that are resisting its hegemonic designs. After Afghanistan and Iraq, the U.S. wanted to target Iran, but it was not able to do so due to some reasons. So, the U.S. started playing its game in the region to protect its interests."

30. "Terror Acts In Iraq and The Establishment On Peace," an editorial in popular Urdu daily, "Express," (cir. 25,000) (07/22)

"The only way to stop terror acts and prevent civil war in Iraq is to put UN in charge of Iraq's domestic situation and withdraw allied troops. This would indeed yield positive results and the path to Mideast peace could be paved." Crocker

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